

Other references of interest to the naturalist appear on p. 89 where a visit of James Drummond, on June 27, 1842, is recorded and on p. 115 where it is recorded that Drummond again visited the Wollastons, this time with John Gilbert, on November 21, 1842. On p. 233 (August 1843) are Wollaston's comments on parts of Gould's *Birds of Australia*, the property of the Governor, John Hutt.

NEW OR INTERESTING RECORDS OF SIXTEEN BIRD SPECIES FROM BERNIER ISLAND, DIRK HARTOG ISLAND, OR PERON PENINSULA, SHARK BAY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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I spent four weeks in June and July 1976 doing research on Silvereyes on Bernier I. (June 7-15), Peron Peninsula (June 17-24) and Dirk Hartog I. (June 25-July 7). Mees (1962) and Davies and Chapman (1975) have comprehensively listed all of the bird species known to occur at these locations and provided details of earlier visits by ornithologists. There is therefore no need to publish a complete list of bird species observed during my visit. Instead, the list below contains the first or second records of bird species for these localities, records of species that have not been seen at some of the localities for many years, or new breeding records.

The areas covered at each locality were as follows: Bernier I., the northern quarter of the island; Peron Peninsula, roads between Monkey Mia and Denham, Peron Peninsula H.S. and Denham, and area around the H.S.; Dirk Hartog I., north to Tetrodon Loop (including the Notch Point peninsula), south to the first point S. of D.H.I. H.S. and west to Herald Heights and the coast.

ANNOTATED LIST

White-faced Heron, *Ardea novaehollandiae*. One seen on W. coast of Bernier I. (second record for island). Seven birds seen near Tetrodon Loop on Dirk Hartog I. (new record for island).

Reef Heron, *Egretta sacra*. Both grey and white phases were seen on Bernier I., although the latter phase was rare. It seems possible that Shortridge's record of *E. alba* on Bernier I. refers to this species (see Mees, 1962: 101).

Mountain Duck, *Tadorna tadornoides*. Two seen once overhead near the H.S. on Dirk Hartog I. (second record for island and Shark Bay area).

Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus notatus*. A dead bird was found at Peron Peninsula H.S. This is the second record for Shark Bay area.

Little Falcon, *Falco longipennis*. One bird was observed once at close range with binoculars at H.S. on Dirk Hartog I. (new record for Shark Bay area).

Silver Gull, *Larus novaehollandiae*. A nest containing one egg and one chick was found on the east coast of Bernier I. near the Wedge Rock anchorage. This species doubtless also nests on the small islets around this anchorage.

Rock Parrot, *Neophema petrophila*. Only observed (10 birds) on Eagle Islet, about 16 km SE of Denham.

Pallid Cuckoo, *Cuculus pallidus*. Two birds were seen once in the centre of Bernier I. (W of Wedge Rock anchorage). This is the first record for the island. One bird was seen frequently near H.S. on Dirk Hartog I., one was seen at Notch Point, and two were seen together near the centre of the island. This species has not been recorded on Dirk Hartog I. since 1921.

Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike, *Coracina novaehollandiae*. A flock of twelve birds was seen in centre of Dirk Hartog I. (W of H.S.) on July 3. They were flying N. On July 5 eleven birds were seen S of the above locality. This is the first record of this species on Dirk Hartog I. since 1917.

White-fronted Chat, *Ephthianura albifrons*. One male was seen in a

paddock near Tetrodon Loop (Dirk Hartog I.) on two days. This species has not been seen on the island since 1927.

Crimson Chat, *E. tricolor*. One bird was seen near H.S. on Peron Peninsula. (Second record for peninsula).

Orange Chat, *E. aurifrons*. Group of 4-5 birds fed in paddocks adjacent to H.S. on Peron Peninsula. (First record for Shark Bay area).

Red-capped Robin, *Petroica goodenovii*. Rare. Two brown-plumaged birds were seen in a paddock near Tetrodon Loop, Dirk Hartog I., and one male was seen in the yards at the H.S. This is only the third record for Dirk Hartog I.

Western Warbler, *Gerygone fusca*. One bird was mist-netted, banded and released near H.S. on Peron Peninsula. It was not heard to sing. This is the first record for Shark Bay area.

Silvereye, *Zosterops gouldi*. Status uncertain on Bernier I., but probably resident. Rare. About ten birds were seen in *Diplolaena*: tall *Acacia coriacea* thickets near centre of island W of Wedge Roek anchorage (cf. discussion on status by Mees, 1962: 110).

Little Crow, *Corvus bennetti*. This species occurs in small numbers (maximum number seen together was four) on Bernier I. Mees (1962: 111) was not able to determine the species of *Corvus* observed by him on the island.

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REFERENCES

- DAVIES, S. J. J. F., and G. S. CHAPMAN. 1975. The status of birds on Peron Peninsula and Dirk Hartog Island, Shark Bay, W.A. *Emu*, 75: 55-61.
- MEES, G. F. 1962. Birds, pp. 98-112 in "The results of an expedition to Bernier and Dorre Islands, Shark Bay, Western Australia in July, 1959." *W.A. Fish. Dept. Fauna Bull.*, No. 2.

FURTHER NOTES ON BIRDS OF BENDER SWAMP

By ERIC H. SEDGWICK, Harvey

Since the publication of "Birds of Bender Swamp", *W.Aust. Nat.*, 12, 1973: 147-155, I have maintained a programme of observations which has confirmed my conclusions relating to the seasonal occurrence of the commoner water-frequenting birds. The table appearing on p. 149 was based on over 3,000 observations. An additional 1,400 observations provide no grounds for amendment.

LIST OF SPECIES

Predictably a number of additions have been made to the list of species occurring in the area. These are:

Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*. See *W. Aust. Nat.*, 13, 1975: 62 for a note on the occurrence of this species in late 1973. My only other record is for December 25, 1975, when I located one bird in close proximity to White-faced Herons and Straw-necked Ibis. Two long, fine head plumes were noted.

Royal Spoonbill, *Platalea regia*. Two were identified on November 24, 1975 and one bird observed on December 4 and on December 11, but none on later visits. At least one of these birds had a well-developed crest.

Stubble Quail, *Coturnix pectoralis*. When I first flushed quail in the Swamp, I postulated "? Brown Quail" on the basis of habitat and it was not until December 29, 1971 that I heard calls of Stubble Quail from